

REMARKS

The Examiner, Mr. Berman, is thanked for the courtesy extended applicants attorney during the telephone discussion of February 7, 2007, at which time the undersigned attorney acknowledged receipt of the Advisory Action indicating that the amendments submitted by the Amendment of December 18, 2006 would be entered for purposes of appeal, and it was indicated that applicants intend to file a Notice of Appeal so as to continue an appeal process.

As discussed with the Examiner, applicants consider that the preamble of the claims should be amended to more properly reflect the claimed invention in reciting a "defect candidate image displaying" method rather than a "pattern inspection" method as previously recited. That is, as is apparent, the last claimed feature of independent claims 5, 6 and 16 recites display on a screen of a defect candidate image. The Examiner indicated that such amendment would be entered for purposes of appeal, and as recognized by the Examiner, is more properly indicative of the claimed invention, and does not raise new issues requiring further search and/or consideration. Accordingly, by the present amendment, each of the independent and dependent claims have been amended to recite in the preamble thereof, "defect candidate image displaying method", and as noted above, the Examiner indicated that such amendment would be entered for purposes of appeal.

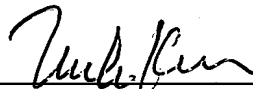
Also accompanying this amendment is a Notice of Appeal, together with the appropriate fee therefore, and the extension of time fee.

In view of the above and the indication by the Examiner that the amendment would be entered for purposes of appeal, entry of the amendment as well as entry of the amendment filed December 18, 2006, which previous amendment, as apparent

from the claim listing has been incorporated into the claims of the Supplemental Amendment, since entry for purposes of appeal has been indicated in the Advisory Action, and a Notice of Appeal is submitted herewith.

To the extent necessary, applicant's petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (501.41125X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melvin Kraus", is written over a horizontal line.

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